



Cave Survey Synopsis

March 28, 2013

Team members:

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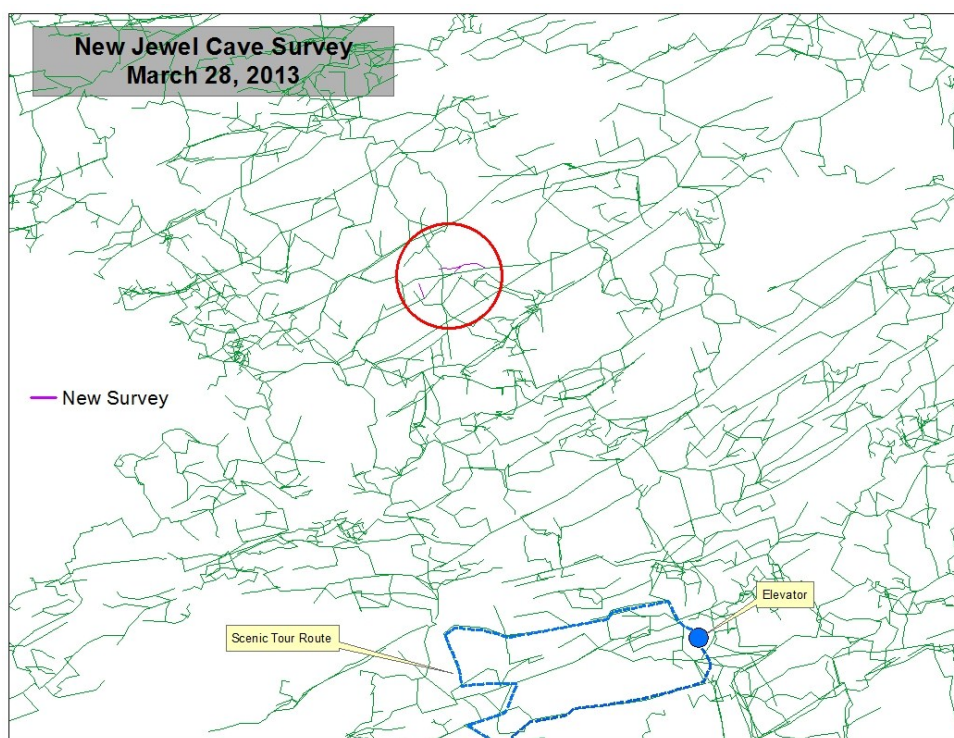
The purpose of this trip was to explore passages along the RD survey, located near the Rosette Room, north of the Scenic Tour route. The RD survey was mapped by pioneer cavers Herb and Jan Conn in 1962, but their notes indicated that other passages might remain to be found. During a recent trip to the area, while evaluating potential rescue routes, cavers had seen passages leading off from the edges of a large hall that the RD survey traverses.



Unusual manganese minerals on the ceiling of a newly-discovered passage.

NPS Photo

Next, the team moved on to other leads nearby and mapped some short connections between already-known passages.



A total of 210 feet were surveyed on this 5-hour trip.

***The current length of Jewel Cave is
166.30 miles.***

Unfortunately, all of these enticing openings dead ended. They are just small alcoves that end a few feet beyond the point that the cavers could see from the middle of the main passageway.

At a survey station, Tyler Devine uses his hand to reflect the laser from the "Disto" used to measure the cave length. NPS Photo

